

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8342

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, KS
SUBJECT: COURT SENTENCES HANGUK SEMINARY STUDENTS

REF: A) SEOUL 8223, B) SEOUL 5539

1. ON SEPTEMBER 30 SONGBUK BRANCH DISTRICT COURT FOUND HANGUK SEMINARY STUDENTS GUILTY OF VIOLATING EM-9. CHARGES AGAINST STUDENTS OF VIOLATING ANTI-COMMUNISTS LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAW WERE DROPPED.
2. COURT SENTENCED THREE STUDENTS TO THREE YEARS IN PRISON, ONE STUDENT TO TWO YEARS, AND ONE KIM HA-POM, SON OF KIM KWAN-SUK, KNCC SEC GEN, TO A TERM OF TWO TO THREE YEARS DETENTION.
3. ALSO ON SEPTEMBER 30, SONGBUK COURT SENTENCED FOUR OTHER HANGUK SEMINARY STUDENTS TO TWO YEAR TERMS FOR VIOLATING EM-9. THESE STUDENTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED LAST MARCH AS THEY WERE PREPARING AN OFF-CAMPUS DEMONSTRATION.
4. HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT COURT WOULD IMPOSE HEAVY SENTENCES ON GROUP OF FIVE SEMINARY STUDENTS AND DAMAGE THEIR FUTURE CAREERS BY
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CONVICTING THEM UNDER ANTI-COMMUNIST AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAWS, BUT, AS NOTED, COURT DID NOT CARRY PUNISHMENT TO THAT DEGREE.
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Message Attributes

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